



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department Of Agriculture Rural Development
Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Neb. 68508
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CENTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS AND NEBRASKA HOUSING DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION RECEIVE USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Lincoln, Neb., June 7, 2005—The Center for Rural Affairs of Walthill and the Nebraska Housing Developers Association of Lincoln are the recipients of USDA Rural Development rural community development initiative (RCDI) grant funds totaling \$189,402.

The technical assistance grant program assists in the development or increases the capacity of nonprofit organizations, low-income rural communities or federally recognized tribes to undertake projects in the areas of housing, community facilities, and community and economic development in rural areas.

The Center for Rural Affairs of Walthill received \$89,402 to deliver a program that will generate new community leaders, businesses, and citizen participation in governmental and civic organizations for both adults and youth. The Center for Rural Affairs will provide financial and technical assistance for building leadership development, small business support, new enterprise exploration and youth engagement. Recipient communities to benefit from the program are Bloomfield, Creighton, Crofton, Niobrara, Verdigre, and Wausa, totaling nearly 4,700 rural residents.

The Nebraska Housing Developers Association will utilize \$100,000 to deliver a program that will provide technical and financial assistance for selected not-for-profit organizations in rural Nebraska to enable them to apply sustainable development approaches to the communities in their service area. The Nebraska Housing Developers Association will provide educational activities/training to key not-for-profit organizations in concepts of sustainable development, homeownership strategies and program implementation. Program recipients are High Plain Community Development Corporation of Chadron serving Chadron, Crawford, Gordon, Hay Springs, and Rushville; ISANTI Resident Organization of Niobrara serving Santee; Native Council on Economic & Community Development of Walthill serving Macy and Walthill; Central Nebraska Economic Development District of Bassett serving Atkinson, Bassett, Long Pine, Spencer, and Stuart; Northeast Housing Initiative of Allen serving Bloomfield, Creighton, Crofton, Hartington, Laurel, Verdigre, and Wausa; Southeast NE Community Action Council of Humboldt serving Humboldt, Pawnee City, and Tecumseh; Southwest NE Community Betterment Corporation of Grant serving Grant, Hayes Center, Palisade, Trenton, and Wauneta; and Three Rivers Housing Development Corporation of Tekamah serving Beemer, Lyons, Oakland, Scribner, West Point, and Wisner. Services will be available to over 38,000 rural residents.

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Recipients are required to obtain matching funds that will double the impact of the USDA grants. Funding of individual recipients will be contingent upon meeting the conditions of the grant agreement. A complete list of 2005 recipients can be found at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/newsroom/news.htm>.

Further information on rural programs in Nebraska is available at the USDA Rural Development State Office (402) 437-5556, (402) 437-5093 (TDY), Rm 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Neb. 68508. Visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne.

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